

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A device for holding at least one cartridge
2 having a chamber containing a fluid, wherein the chamber
3 includes a generally planar face, the device comprising:
4 a rotatable body having a rotational axis, wherein
5 the rotatable body includes at least one mounting element
6 which is adapted to mount the rotatable body such that the
7 face of the chamber is generally perpendicular to the
8 rotational axis.

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10 2. The device as in claim 1, wherein the mounting
11 element comprises a pair of opposing walls which each include
12 at least one slot, and wherein the slots are adapted to
13 receive the cartridge.

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15 3. The device as in claim 2, wherein the rotatable
16 body comprises a base connecting the pair of walls.

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18 4. The device as in claim 2, wherein the rotational
19 axis extends through one of the walls.

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21 5. The device as in claim 2, wherein the opposing
22 walls are parallel to each other, and wherein the slots are
23 configured such that the face of the chamber is generally
24 perpendicular to the walls when placed into the slots.

1 6. The device as in claim 2, wherein at least one
2 of the slots is keyed such that the cartridge is insertable
3 into the slot in only one orientation.

1 7. The device as in claim 2, wherein each wall
2 includes a plurality of slots which are adapted to receive a
3 plurality of cartridges.

1 8. The device as in claim 2, wherein the rotatable
2 body includes at least three parallel walls, with the walls
3 each including slots which are adapted to receive multiple
4 cartridges.

1 9. The device as in claim 2, further comprising a
2 lid operably attached to at least one of the walls and which
3 is adapted to secure the cartridge within the slots when the
4 lid is closed.

1 10. The device as in claim 1, further comprising at
2 least one coupling element operably attached to the body in
3 alignment with the rotational axis, wherein the coupling
4 element is adapted to couple the rotatable body to a rotation
5 mechanism.

1 11. The device as in claim 1, wherein said device
2 is fabricated from a generally amber colored transparent
3 material.

1 12. The device of claim 11, wherein said material
2 plexiglass.

1 13. The device of claim 11, wherein said material
2 prevents the passage therethrough of light having a wavelength
3 in the range of 200 nm to 700 nm.

1 14. A system to facilitate the hybridization of a
2 fluid, the system comprising:
3 at least one cartridge having a chamber for holding
4 a fluid, wherein the chamber includes a generally planar face;
5 a rotatable body having a rotational axis, wherein
6 the rotatable body includes at least one mounting element to
7 removably mount the cartridge to the rotatable body such that
8 the face of the chamber is generally perpendicular to the
9 rotational axis.

1 15. The system as in claim 14, wherein the mounting
2 element comprises a pair of opposing walls which each include
3 at least one slot, and wherein the slots are arranged such
4 that the cartridge is insertable into the slots.

1 16. The system as in claim 15, wherein the

2 rotatable body comprises a base connecting the pair of walls.

1 17. The system as in claim 15, wherein the
2 rotational axis extends through one of the walls.

1 18. The system as in claim 15, wherein the opposing
2 walls are parallel to each other, and wherein the slots are
3 configured such that the face of the chamber is generally
4 perpendicular to the walls when placed into the slots.

1 19. The system as in claim 15, wherein at least one
2 of the slots is keyed such that the cartridge is insertable
3 into the slot in only one orientation.

1 20. The system as in claim 15, wherein each wall
2 includes a plurality of slots, and wherein the slots are
3 arranged such that multiple cartridges may be inserted into
4 the slots in a parallel arrangement.

1 21. The system as in claim 15, wherein the
2 rotatable body includes at least three parallel walls, with
3 the walls each including slots for receiving multiple
4 cartridges.

1 22. The system as in claim 15, further comprising a
2 lid operably attached to at least one of the walls, wherein
3 the lid is movable between an open and a closed position, and
4 wherein the lid secures the cartridge within the slots when
5 the lid is in the closed position.

1 23. The system as in claim 13, further comprising
2 at least one coupling element operably attached to the body in
3 alignment with the rotational axis, wherein the coupling
4 element is adapted to couple the rotatable body to a rotation
5 mechanism.

1 24. The system as in claim 14, wherein the chamber
2 includes a pair of planar spaced-apart faces which define an
3 interior having the fluid, wherein the faces are generally

4 rectangular in geometry, and wherein the cartridge is mounted
5 to the body such that the faces are generally perpendicular to
6 the rotational axis to facilitate mixing of the fluid within
7 the chamber.

1 25. A method for facilitating the hybridization of
2 a fluid, the method comprising:

3 providing a cartridge having a chamber at least
4 partially filled with a fluid, wherein the chamber includes a
5 generally planar face;

6 removably coupling the cartridge to a rotatable body
7 having a rotational axis such that the face of the chamber is
8 generally perpendicular to the rotational axis; and

9 rotating the rotatable body about the rotational
10 axis.

1 26. The method as in claim 24, further comprising
2 rotating the body about the rotational axis at a rate in the
3 range from about 30 rpm to about 90 rpm.

1 27. The method as in claim 24, further comprising
2 heating the chamber to a temperature in the range from about
3 30 degrees C. to about 60 degrees C. while the body is
4 rotating.

1 28. The method as in claim 27, further comprising
2 rotating the body within an oven to heat the chamber.

1 29. The method as in claim 24, wherein the coupling
2 step comprises inserting the cartridge into slots formed in a
3 pair of spaced-apart walls.

1 30. The method as in claim 29, further comprising
2 securing the cartridge within the slots prior to rotating the
3 body.

1 31. The method as in claim 29, further comprising
2 inserting multiple cartridges into multiple slots in the pair
3 of walls.

